writings, the establishment of important institutions and bodies, key court cases, and more. The volume also features a list of contributors that provides information about each author, a valuable list of sources credited in the chapter introductions, an author and title index, and a thorough subject index.

In her epilogue, Cloonan suggests several nodes around which further research and publications might concentrate. Indeed, one drawback of such a sweeping anthology is that it will inevitably become outdated nearly as soon as it is published; the most recent texts included are now already two to three years old. Even so, Cloonan proves herself forward-thinking, as the foci she identifies are indeed the subject of some of the most important and exciting current work: the proliferation of digital media, the needs and rights of information creators and users, citizen science and citizen journalism, the environment. Preserving Our Heritage offers the foundation we need if we are to develop creative and informed solutions and to produce the next generation of “classic” preservation literature.—Anna-Sophia Zingarelli-Sweet, MLIS


Finalized in early 2015, the Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education was created by ACRL to provide a roadmap for librarians working to reimagine their approach to information literacy. The Framework seeks to move what librarians teach from the “how” of information literacy skills to the “why” of information creation and use. This is where “threshold concepts” enter in as the six core concepts identified in the Framework as the key to students’ information literacy: Scholarship as Conversation; Research as Inquiry; Authority is Constructed and Contextual; Information Creation as a Process; Searching as Strategic Exploration; and Information has Value.

Teaching ideas rather than specific skills is a challenge, and Teaching Information Literacy Threshold Concepts models how this can be done with detailed lesson plans for each of the core concepts. Most lesson plans follow a template that includes learning goals; anticipatory sets (ways to engage the students’ attention and help them focus on the topic being taught); lesson objectives; input/modeling (how to present and demonstrate the concept); checks for understanding; guided practice; and independent practice. The lessons themselves typically run from thirty to sixty minutes in length and were contributed by academic librarians from across the United States.

Some of the thirty-four lessons will be familiar to librarians who have been using the Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education that the ACRL created in 2000. These include recognizing plagiarism, identifying scholarly versus non-scholarly sources, and developing a research question. Others will be more novel, such as “Crafting a Credible Message”, which helps students understand how information is interconnected. All of the lessons, however, are conceptual rather than skills-based, designed to teach students the “why” of research. This means the lessons easily can be customized by subject-specialist librarians to the specifics of a particular discipline. The hour-long lessons presented here will be helpful to librarians working on campuses with robust information literacy programs in place, and the shorter lessons can be incorporated by those limited to the ubiquitous one-shot classes.

In the appendixes, the editors provide lesson handouts (also available online) as well as a list of lessons that present more than one threshold concept in the course of the class. Also included are the full text of the ACRL’s Framework and a recommended reading list of articles and books that explore threshold concepts in more depth.

The Framework and its six threshold concepts have been embraced by some librarians and dismissed by others. By providing this collection of detailed lesson plans, Teaching Information Literacy Threshold Concepts helps clarify how the Framework can be put to use to teach information literacy in the classroom.—Ann Agee, School of Information Librarian, San Jose State University, San Jose, California


Tim Wadham brings his considerable expertise in children’s literature to the table in Wordplay for Kids. Previously a youth services coordinator of the Maricopa County Library District in Phoenix, Arizona, Wadham is the director of the Puyallup Public Library in Puyallup, Washington and author of a picture book, The Queen of France. Wadham developed the public library programs presented in this book as a result of his work with school librarians Katie Blake and Cynthia Daniels.

Through Wordplay: A Sourcebook of Poems, Rhymes, and Read-Alouds, Wadham addresses the need for quality programs for the elementary or “tween”-age child. The programs continue the learning of concepts begun in preschool story time. They have the familiar feel of PLA’s early literacy program Every Child Ready to Read. The book presents two models for shared reading: Shared Warmth, a parent and child reading program; and Wordplay for Kids. Wadham discusses the development of these programs through his work as a youth librarian in both public and school libraries. Wordplay presents the models for these two programs that develop a love of language in school age children. The first chapter details the process of creating and implementing the Shared Warmth program. Two additional chapters follow: Wordplay for five- to seven-year-olds and Wordplay for eight- to twelve-year-olds. By following the program template discussed in these two chapters, librarians are ‘helping develop a ‘literary ear’: artful language patterns, correct and